

Ecclesiastes 9:7-10 Taking Joy in Common Things

February 16, 2020 – Pastor Nick Neves

Enjoying life in the here and now is not only *acceptable* for the believer, it is _____! There are many blessings to be appreciated in our simple everyday existence, and we should not be ashamed to enjoy them as long as we honor God while doing so.

Does verse 7 dissolve the moral boundaries of scripture when it says that *‘God has already approved of what you do’*?

*Understand this verse in terms of God’s _____:
He has framed out life in such a way that He intends for you to be blessed by these basic aspects of life under the sun.

Solomon instructs us to appreciate four basic realms of daily life:

Take joy in what you _____

⁷ Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart

(see Exodus 16:20, Numbers 13, Psalm 23, Matthew 22, Luke 12)

Is alcohol evil? Do we honor God by forbidding its use?

(see Ephesians 5:18, Colossians 2:20-23)

*When man attempts to _____ to the law, we subtly tell God that He’s not doing a good enough job.

Take joy in the _____ you wear

⁸ Let your garments be always white...

(see Galatians 3:27, Matthew 5:16, 1 Peter 1:3-4)

Take joy in CARING for your physical body.

... *⁸ Let not oil be lacking on your head.*

What about Romans 13:14, which tells us to ‘make no provisions for the flesh’?

Take joy in _____ marriage

⁹ Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun.

(see 1 Corinthians 7:3-5, 28-31)

*How did this particular command strike home to Solomon, the author of Ecclesiastes?

Followers of Jesus are not _____, living only for the here and now with no thought towards eternity. However, we must honor the command of 1 Thessalonians 5:16, that we are to ‘rejoice always’, knowing that the redeemed have the greatest reason to find happiness in even the simplest blessings of life, knowing they are a gift from God.

This common joy is a believer’s _____ in life.

